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The Apache

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF TYLER JUNIOR
COLLEGE ALUMNI, FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS

DR. EDWARD M. POTTER
1907-2003

JUDGE HARRY L. LOFTIS
1921-2003

TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE
Loses Two Legends

Apache Pride Just Keeps Growing

Membership in the TJC Alumni Association stands at the highest level in its history.

Did you know...

The TJC Alumni Association welcomes all former students and friends of the College.

For just \$25 a year you can help establish scholarships, support the Apache magazine, reunions and other Alumni events.

With our membership dues, the Alumni Association has established five endowed scholarships and the STARS program.

Other benefits of membership

- ☆ A 10% discount at our TJC Bookstore
- ☆ Free admission to all home football games
- ☆ *The Apache* magazine with interesting stories and class notes
- ☆ *The Pow Wow Preview* Newsletter with the latest TJC news and events
- ☆ Access to Vaughn Library and our Career Planning & Placement Office
- ☆ Dependents are eligible to apply for alumni scholarships
- ☆ Special notices and invitations to upcoming Alumni/TJC events
- ☆ Free admission to Campus Capers and TJC Theatre/Music Productions
- ☆ *And most importantly, knowing you are helping TJC change lives*

✦ **Plus Lifetime Members (\$150)** also receive a membership certificate, the book *A History of Tyler Junior College, 1926–1986*, and a TJC Alumni pewter car tag frame. And you have the option of charging it or making \$50 monthly payments.

Think you're a member...

Do you get our special *Pow Wow* newsletter five times a year? If not, find out what you are missing—just fill out the enclosed envelope and mail it today. **Join this spring and we'll send you a free t-shirt!**



For information contact:

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903-510-2371, 1-800-687-5680, or
bbri@tjc.edu, or visit us on the TJC web
site at <http://information.tjc.edu/alumni/>
You can now download our application off
the Alumni web page, check out additional
reunion pictures, and leave your favorite
TJC memories for former classmates.

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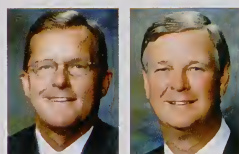
The College's Seniors College program participated in a nationwide effort to collect the war-time memories of veterans and in doing so helped make the lives of East Texas vets part of a Library of Congress archive.

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In the 1960s two brothers from Thailand came to TJC to begin their collegiate experience. Their years here created a bond that lasts to this day and has been a source of inspiration that is bringing higher learning to their native land.



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Look back at the Alumni Association's Fall 2003 events in the photo page section and browse through this edition's Class Notes.

Education. Go Get It.

Colleges across the state are on the grow, and that's good news for the economy.

To continue that growth and even push it to a higher level, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has stepped up its publicity and mentoring/encouragement campaigns associated with the Legislature's "Closing the Gaps by the Year 2015" mandate.

The "Education. Go Get It." campaign slogan has been seen on television, in print and on billboards across the state. These bi-lingual media blitz and mentoring efforts aim to encourage historically under-represented populations to pursue higher academic achievement.

Our state officials are convinced that there is an untapped market in our high schools and that, in particular, minorities are not finding the encouragement they need to make college a part of their career plans.

These officials have also recognized the value of utilizing peer pressure in a positive manner by enlisting high school students in the battle to increase the number of college applicants.

We were recently approved for a grant from the Coordinating Board to help us encourage early financial aid and college application through high school-based "GO Centers."

"GO Centers" were established at 40 high schools across Texas within the past year and will be on the campuses of up to 160 high schools by the end of this semester.

The Mineola High School "GO Center" was the state's inaugural location and is now one of four within the TJC service area.

To avoid any bias of a particular college or university, state rules require "GO Centers" to be maintained by high school students. The students assigned to work with "GO Centers" receive state-managed training on the financial aid application process, college admissions and testing

requirements, hot career opportunities and other subjects that may assist their efforts to encourage their classmates to apply for college.

The \$925,000 in state grants being made available to colleges is to be used to further this peer-to-peer mentoring, establishing a pool of "G-Force" students who appear at area "GO Centers" periodically and conduct activities to promote college as an important life decision.

These college "G-Force" students are to interact with high school "G-Force" students to form a team of pro-college incentive.

Our intent is to utilize students of the TJC TRiO program as "G-Force" trainees. To be eligible for TRiO, students must meet a wide range of federally established criteria that identify them as representing an under-represented population. There are 200 students in our TRiO program and most are first-generation college students.

We believe their experiences and voices of encouragement will be a natural match for the "Education. Go Get It." challenge.

The TRiO students selected will engage in activities at "GO Centers" in New Summerfield and Mineola, initially. If possible, the service will be expanded to include Quitman and Alba-Golden high schools and any others that may develop in our service area.

Students in TJC's TRiO program are already required to perform a minimum amount of community service, and in meeting this challenge the students selected for "G-Force" membership will receive hourly compensation and be reimbursed for travel expenses.

Recently a member of our financial aid staff traveled to the New Summerfield "GO Center" and found it faces serious staffing shortages and has seen only a minimal number of student visitors. The New Summerfield High School ethnic mix is




TJC President Dr. William R. Crowe

approximately 70 percent Hispanic, an audience that is at the core of the "Education. Go Get It." effort. Historically, fewer than one-third of New Summerfield's students have taken the SAT or ACT college admission exams.

It seems reasonable that we would assist with that school's efforts to encourage college attendance.

Already our admissions office travels to 17 public high schools and a growing number of private schools in our region, participating in activities to encourage the pursuit of a college degree. Each year our financial aid office holds a series of workshops designed to help students understand the importance of timely application and to spread the word that financial assistance does exist for thousands of qualifying applicants.

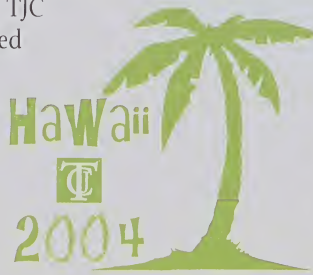
I'm optimistic that by adding this "GO Center" component, utilizing students who have faced adversity and challenge as peer examples, that we'll be a part of the success the state realizes in its attempts to close the gaps in higher education. We'll be in discussions with other area high schools about establishing more "GO Centers," to help spread the message of the importance of a college education. 

Belles, Band, Vocal Groups Travel To Hawaii for Military Support Tour

The Apache Belles, Apache Band, Jazz Band, Harmony and Understanding and A Cappella Choir left March 6 for Hawaii where they were scheduled to entertain U.S. military members and their families.

This is the first time all of the TJC performance groups have traveled together to perform and it is the largest travel group ever put together for a TJC-sponsored activity. The groups were scheduled to perform at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 11, at Schofield Army Barracks near Honolulu and at 6 p.m. Friday, March 12, at Pearl Harbor Navy Base.

Some of the troops to be entertained received orders in February for a tour of duty in Afghanistan and were scheduled to leave Schofield the week after the performances.



"This is an historic event for these students and a terrific opportunity for them to showcase their talents while providing some valuable entertainment for

our nation's service men and women," said TJC President Dr. William R. Crowe. "We have a large contingent of supporters and alumni who will make the trip at their own expense. It should be a great time and a source of pride for all of us connected with the College." The TJC travel group, including

alumni, parents and supporters, totals more than 330. They were scheduled to return March 13. The week of March 8 through March 12 is Spring Break. The traveling performers will return to class on Monday, March 15.

Louise H. Ornelas, Trenia Tillis to be Honored March 25

A longtime TJC friend and the head coach of the Apache Ladies basketball team are among Tyler ladies to be honored at the annual Women In Tyler luncheon.

The event celebrates Women's History Month by recognizing the achievements of Tyler women. This year's theme is "Women Who Make Good Things Happen." The luncheon is scheduled for March 25, beginning at 11 a.m., at the Tyler Rose

Garden Center.

Honorees include longtime TJC friend Louise H. Ornelas and Apache Ladies Basketball Coach Trenia Tillis.

Other honorees are Lillie Claybon, Nancy Lamar, Nancy Crawford, Bridgette Franklin, Anne Payne, Ana Fuggins and Martel Williams.

For ticket information, call 903-593-6905.



THEATRE SCHOLARSHIP CREATED—The Tyler Chapter Women's Council of Realtors presented a check to the College to create the June Roberts Theatre Arts Scholarship in September. The gift was in memory of Roberts who was an active member of the Tyler Civic Theatre and a former real estate student at TJC. Mrs. Roberts died in April, 2002. Pictured with TJC President Dr. William R. Crowe, left, are the late Terry Churchwell; Dr. Kim Russell, executive director of the TJC Foundation; and Arleta Farmer of the Tyler Chapter Women's Council of Realtors.

Our profile series highlighting reflections of faculty and staff members who have been a part of Tyler Junior College more than three decades concludes with seven TJC veterans.

Gene Branum (1969)



Positions Held:

Instructor/
chair
physical
sciences and
engineering.

Degrees:

B.S., M.Ed., Stephen F. Austin State University.

Why TJC?: Marion and I had taught in Tyler Independent School District for six years and moved to League City, Texas to teach in Clear Creek Independent School District in 1968. The physics position at TJC came open in the spring 1969, and we were pleased to come home that fall.

Favorite TJC memory: We had fun watching TJC basketball with Coach Wagstaff and TJC football when our son played. I have enjoyed the association with good students, good faculty and staff.

Honors and Achievements: My greatest honor is to hear from past students that I had a positive influence on their lives and careers.

Family: Married to Marion 44 years, one child, two grandchildren.



Richard T. Minter (1969)



Positions Held: Dean, program development & institutional research, dean of technology, instructor of drafting and design technology.

Degrees: B.S., M.Ed., Sam Houston State University.

Why TJC?: After I was assigned to teach 23 hours one semester at Bee College in Beeville, I applied at TJC. When I called one Monday, Dr. Potter said he had selected someone, but he hadn't notified the person, and he would talk to me on Friday. I drove up from Beeville, and I had a contract before I left the campus. Years later, I was given a copy of a letter Dr. Potter had written, that I hadn't received, telling me the position had been filled. I believe I was destined to be here. If I had received the letter, I wouldn't have called.

Favorite TJC memory: My fondest memories are the good times the faculty in Pirtle had eating lunch together around the conference table. We were very close—like a family. Also, I'll never forget Mr. Pirtle and how much he cared about TJC. During the construction of Pirtle, phase V, he stopped by every day to check on the additions that were being made to the building named in his honor.

Honors and Achievements: *Marquis Who's Who in the South and Southwest, 1992; Who's Who Worldwide, 1993; Who's Who International, 2001; Site Visit Evaluator and other committees for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board since 1987; Texas Association of College Technical Educators since 1973; Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Reaccreditation Site Visit Team Member since 1984; Chairman on Board of Directors of East Texas Employment & Training, Inc. since January 2002, member since 1995.*

Family: Married to Pat 38 years, one child, two grandchildren.

College Again Receives Innovative Projects Grant

The College was awarded a \$498,000 federal grant from the Department of Human Services Innovative Project to provide assistance to low-income students enrolled in an allied health program.

The grant is for two years, said Dr. Vickie Geisel, director of Support Services.

Recipients must be eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Awards may be used for uniforms, supplies, books, gasoline or state board exam fees.

"This is the fifth year TJC has received DHS funds to help students receiving TANF," said Jan Adams, Support Services special populations coordinator. "The program has been very successful. All of the graduates who used the funds no longer require TANF assistance."

Tyler Junior College is the only college in Texas to be awarded the grant.

TJC Receives Financial Reporting Award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada has awarded Tyler Junior College a certificate of achievement for excellence in financial reporting.

The award was presented to Sarah Van Cleef, director of Business Services, for a comprehensive annual financial report.

The certificate of achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. An impartial panel determined the TJC comprehensive annual financial report met the high standards of the program and demonstrated a constructive "spirit of full disclosure to clearly communicate its financial story and to motivate potential users and user groups ..."

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada is a nonprofit association serving approximately 14,000 government finance professionals.

Spring Enrollment Marks Another High for Term

Spring enrollment exceeded 9,000 students on the official reporting date for the first time in the College's history. There were 9,113 students at the college for spring 2004 on February 4, a 6.24 percent increase from spring 2003's certified total of 8,578.

The College's headcount enrollment ranked 15th last year among the state's community colleges, and 14th in total contact hours, a report released in December showed. TJC President Dr. William R. Crowe attributed the healthy enrollment figures to a variety of factors, including the work of admissions personnel, an increased awareness of the importance of a college education, the preference of local students to remain close to home, the College's ability to quickly respond to the needs of local industry and low cost and good value.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board certified totals in April might reflect some total changes.

Alpha Omicron Presents 'Care of Life' Teleconference

The Alpha Omicron chapter of Phi Theta Kappa presented "Keeping Our Promises: Improving Care at the End of Life," an interactive, live satellite seminar, in October.

This was the third teleconference hosted and shared with students from Trinity Valley Community College and John Tyler High School.

The seminar was presented by Dr. Diann Uustal, a nationally recognized clinical ethicist who is founder and president of Educational Resources in HealthCare, Inc., and focused on health care ethics, professional caregiver issues and values education.

Alpha Omicron Nation's Third in PTK Inductions

The Alpha Omicron chapter of Phi Theta Kappa inducted 381 members during the year 2003, finishing third among two-year institutions in the category. The nation's top chapter in terms of adding members was Tarrant County College-Southeast. Columbus State Community College of Ohio was second.

Grant-Funded Training Concludes; TJC-Authored Partnership Heralded

A unique training partnership that netted the College a grant in the amount of \$727,451 last year was recently recognized for excellence by the Texas Workforce Commission.

The TWC presented TJC's Corporate Services division with a Leadership & Innovation Employer Award of Excellence for the six-partner arrangement that helped secure training for hundreds of employees and recruits.

Meanwhile, a year's worth of training made possible by the grant is winding down.

In January, The Trane Company, a business of American Standard Companies, held its last training session for prospective employees for its Tyler air conditioning plant. Trane utilized a miniature air-conditioner production line in a mechanical trades building on the east side of TJC's Main campus to pre-train and prepare prospective workers.

Trane Plant Manager Doug Hunsley said the approach of pre-training job prospects began a few years ago and has been very successful.

"It is a very good screening process," he said.

Candidates rotate in smaller groups throughout the labs, spending time learning the job skills used to assemble air conditioners on a miniaturized production line.



A Trane Company training assistant watches while a prospective employee applies a part to an air conditioner unit.



Trane Plant Manager Doug Hunsley explains the company's training and screening process to Tyler Morning Telegraph reporter Shauna Wonzer.

Wearing safety goggles and equipment, they assemble a unit from "beginning to end."

"It teaches them how to work in the real world," said Bruce Pate, an employee trainer for the company.

Candidates receive "job specific training, so when they go to work they are not lost," said Sam Krhovjak, a consultant for contract training with TJC Corporate Services.

Before the candidates make their way to the classroom, the company requires them to take an aptitude test, a physical and a drug test.

Trane held three weeklong sessions for job candidates, providing them a pool to pull from when assembly line positions become available. Pate said the company likes to have a pool of about 25 people ready for hire. He said the specific training enables someone who is underemployed, and it teaches the person job skills.

Trane produces about 4,000 air conditioning units a day and about a million a year, company officials said.

The grant also allowed for job-specific training for Brookshire Grocery Co., United Technologies-Carrier Corp., Cox Communications, East Texas Medical Center and Trinity Mother Frances Health Center.

Frank Rucker (1969)



Positions held: Instructor of agriculture/economics.

Degrees: B.S., M.Ed., East Texas State University.

Why TJC?: My wife and I were both students at TJC in 1960. This was a great period in our lives. We had fun playing dominoes and visiting.

Favorite TJC memory: Seeing my children graduate from TJC was a thrill, and I have enjoyed the interaction with other faculty members and students.

Honors and Achievements: Several certificates of appreciation.

Family: Married to Jackie 43 years, three children and seven grandchildren.

Noamie Byrum (1970)



Positions held: Instructor of English and coordinator of the University Studies writing/computer lab.

Degrees: B.A., M.A., Stephen F. Austin State University.

Why TJC?: Dr. Potter, vice president at TJC, called me at Stephen F. Austin during the summer just before I graduated with my master's degree inviting me to teach "English as a foreign language." I had no training in the special field of ESL, but neither did anyone else in the East Texas area. For the first few weeks the students turned their desks toward the windows and would not look at me, for I was a woman without a veil.

Favorite TJC memory: One spring we had bomb threats every Wednesday. When the fire alarm went off, we would all gather on the lawn outside the Tepee and visit with the students and have a good time until the policeman would herd us back to classes.

Honors and achievements: University of Texas Teaching Excellence Award for work at TJC; Mattie Alice Scroggin Baker Excellence in Teaching Award, 1998; National Endowment grants for summer study in England and in Massachusetts; Texas Creation of Uniform Grading Standards Committee for the first TASP writing test; Initiated: Teaching Composition on Computers, co-founder, *TJC Touchstone* and the Faculty Innovation Center.

Family: Three children, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Billie Jo Lee (1970)



Positions held: Supervisor, environmental services, environmental services specialist, custodian.

Why TJC?: My mother worked for President H. E.

Jenkins, and my father worked at Wagstaff Gym.

Favorite TJC memory: I will always remember the challenge of moving from Jenkins Hall to the fabulous White Building. Challenge is my motivation.

Honors and Achievements: Certification as Certified Executive Housekeeper through TJC Continuing Education.

Family: Three children, three grandchildren.

Stan Watson (1970)



Positions Held: Instructor of history.

Degrees: B.S., M.A., Stephen F. Austin State University.

Favorite TJC memory: My favorite memories are of faculty, friends and successful students.

Family: Married to Pat 26 years.

Pamela Wade (1971)



Positions Held: Instructor, freshman clinic coordinator, interim director.

Degrees: B.S., Baylor University; M.S., Stephen F. Austin State University.

Why TJC?: I was contacted to teach because I had just recently graduated with a bachelor's degree, and there were few registered dental hygienists with degrees then.

Favorite TJC memory: I remember getting memos from Dr. Jenkins, handwritten in red pencil, and reading the "Yellow Harry." It's a pleasure to work with such great faculty and students! They are the best!

Honors and achievements: University of Texas at Austin Medallion Award.

Family: Married to Vernon 20 years.

Apaches Claim Heart of Texas Bowl, Finish With 10 Victories

The Apaches lost out on a chance to claim the Southwest Junior College Football Championship in a stunning overtime game with Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, but made up for it with an impressive 55-3 whipping of Rochester Community and Technical College in the annual Heart of Texas Bowl December 6.

It was Tyler's first appearance in the Copperas Cove finale and it resulted in the Apaches' first 10-win season since 1969. They finished 10-2 and ranked No. 6 in the nation.

Northeastern Oklahoma, by virtue of their 37-34 victory for the conference title, had first claim to the Heart of Texas bowl bid but elected to play closer to home, in the Dalton Defenders Bowl, paving the way for the Apaches' bowl victory.

Tailback Vincent Brown rushed for 124 yards and one touchdown and quarterback Tony Eckert completed 14 of 24 passes for 259 yards and four TD's to lead the Apaches. Ashlan Davis had 50 yards receiving and a TD and also scored on a 53-yard punt return.



Photo courtesy of Tyler Courier-Times-Telegraph

"I'm happy all the way around," said Head Coach Dale Carr.

The TJC defense allowed only 197 total yards and recorded four interceptions, two each by sophomores Tim Williams and Theo Baines.

Turnovers and a blocked punt helped the Apaches to three second-quarter TD's and a field goal. Tyler led the game 31-3 at halftime.

The central Texas game was a homecoming of sorts for several Apache players. Sophomore defensive back Dewayne Brandon is from Temple. Freshman defensive end Yamil Lebron is from nearby Killeen Ellison High School. Sophomore deep snapper Michael Sustaita is from Troy, just outside of Temple.

Two Apaches Named to NJCAA All-American Team

Two Apache football players were selected to the 2003 NJCAA All-American Team: defensive back Quincy Butler and center Brett McGehee.

Butler, 6' 2", 188, from San Antonio, had five interceptions for 46 yards and one touchdown during the season that saw the Apaches win 10 games for the first time since 1969. He was also the second-leading punt returner in the Southwest Junior College Football Conference with 11 returns for 184 yards.

Brett McGehee, 6' 4", 252, from Denton, was the anchor of an offensive line that helped produce 3,613 yards in total offense during the regular season.

Head Coach Dale Carr said he expects both players to be impact players at the next level.

The team also was represented by nine players on the All-Conference team: Robert Spells, WR, 6' 1", 185,



Quincy Butler



Brett McGehee

Abilene (31 receptions for 634 yards; 7 TD's); Booker Jenkins, FB, 5' 11", 240, Houston; Richard Collier, OT, 6' 7", 380, Shreveport, LA; McGehee, C, Denton; Chris Smith, K, 6' 0", 170, Plano (68 points); Melvin Porter, DE, 6' 2", 215, Willis (team-leading 4 sacks); Irpatrick Jackson, LB, 6' 1", 205, Tomball (second-leading tackler with 57); Butler, CB, San Antonio; and Michael Johnson, DB, 6' 3", 190, Pflugerville.

Jackson will return for a sophomore season in 2004.

Freitas-Growcott Doubles Team Gets National Acclaim

Jordan Freitas and Mark Growcott were apparently undaunted over the challenge of competing against some of the nation's finest tennis players from four-year universities.

The TJC doubles team lost their opening match in the 2003 ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships in Ann Arbor, MI, but regrouped to defeat top doubles teams from the University of Washington, the University of Michigan, and Brown University to win the consolation bracket.

Freitas and Growcott received the at-large bid for the national tournament by first winning the doubles division of the ITA National Small College Championships, October 16–19, in Corpus Christi, then winning the ITA Super Bowl doubles division, where they competed against

NAIA, Division II and Division III colleges.

"To advance to this level, competing against teams from major four-year colleges and universities, is a great accomplishment," said TJC Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Dr. Tim Drain. "To win consecutive matches against three top-flight teams and claim the consolation bracket championship is phenomenal."

The doubles team's only loss in the championship was to Michael Calkins and Chris Martin of the University of Illinois. It was the first time a TJC doubles team has advanced to the indoor championship tournament.

About a month after the tournament, Growcott signed an official letter of intent with Louisiana State University. A sophomore from Kingswinford, England, Growcott was the first player to sign with LSU for the 2004-05 season.

LSU Head Men's Tennis Coach Jeff Brown described Growcott as "an explosive player with all the shots. He will impact our team immediately."

Volleyball Team Places Three on All-Conference

The ladies' volleyball team placed three members on the Region XIV All-Region Volleyball Team, elected by conference coaches.

Lindsey Roebken, a 6' 2" sophomore from Colorado Springs, Colorado, was tops in voting. An outside hitter and transfer from the University of Wyoming, Roebken led the conference in kills per game with 4.42. She was fourth in service aces per game with .63, fifth in hitting efficiency with .279, and seventh in blocks per game with .94.

Maranda Thompson, a 5' 7" sophomore from Wills Point, was named to the team for the second straight year. The outside hitter was third in the conference in blocks per game with 1.18 and fourth in kills per game with 3.09.

Kati Broom, a 5' 8" sophomore from Dickinson, made the team for the first time. The setter demonstrated her versatility by finding herself in the top of the conference in numerous categories. She led the conference in hitting efficiency with .365, was third in assists and service aces per game, fifth in digs and blocks per game, and seventh in kills with 1.92.

The Apache Ladies finished the season at 27–19, missing a chance to return to the national tournament.

Six Apaches Named All-Conference in Soccer

Six Apache soccer players were selected to the All-Region team following the squad's 18–5–1 season.

Four of the players were also selected to the National Soccer Coaches Athletic Association All-West team and one was selected as a National Junior College Athletic Association and NSCAA All-American.

The players selected to the All-Region team are Peter Archer: a midfielder from Florida; Chris Handy, a defender from Texas; Shaun Van Heerden, a defender from South Africa; Dejan Ondelj, a goal keeper from Florida; Carlos Parra, a defender from Maryland; and Davide Somma, a midfielder from Florida.

The players selected to the NSCAA All-West team are: Archer and Van Heerden (First team) and Parra (Second team). Dejan Ondelj was named Honorable Mention.

Van Heerden was also selected as First Team NJCAA and NSCAA All-American.

The team finished the season ranked 12th in the nation.

Franklin Kimlicko

(1972)



Positions held:

Instructor of music.

Degrees:

B.M., North Texas State

University, M.M. Southern Methodist University.

Why TJC?: I was living in Tyler and teaching at Southern Methodist University. I would leave Tyler at 5 a.m. on Monday and return after dark on Friday. One day, I was at Texas Stadium as part of the orchestra rehearsing a show for the POWs who had returned from Vietnam. During a break, the announcer was practicing his presentation, "... and now, the world-famous Apache Belles and Apache Band from Tyler Junior College." I decided to check out the possibility of teaching guitar at TJC so I wouldn't have to commute. Jack Smith, the band director, directed me to Ed Fowler who was also in attendance. Dr. Fowler thought it was a great idea and the rest is history.

Favorite TJC memory: I cherish the memory of seeing my own children performing as part of our excellent drama and musical productions.

Honors and achievements: Piper Professor Nominee, 1985; Thomas H. Shelby, Jr. Endowed Chair for Teaching Excellence, 1991; Mattie Alice Scroggin Baker Excellence in Teaching Award, 2001; two National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Awards. Private guitar study with Pepe Romero. Had several guitar transcriptions recorded by Angel Romero on the Telarc classical CD label. Produced recruiting CD-Roms for the speech/theatre and Apache Belles programs.

Family: Married to Sheila 43 years, four children, four grandchildren, including twins.

Faculty/Staff Briefs

Cowell, Cryer, Branum Awarded Teaching Chairs

Endowed teaching chair winners for the Spring 2004 semester were announced January 12. This year's winners are



Charles E. Cowell, instructor, computer information technology, The Dorothy and Jack White Endowed Chair for Teaching Excellence; **Pat Cryer**, instructor, associate degree nursing, The Dorothy and Jack White Endowed Chair for Teaching Excellence; and **Howard E. "Gene" Branum**, instructor, department chair, physical sciences/engineering, the Watson W. Wise Foundation Endowed Chair for Teaching Excellence.



Teaching chairs are awards of \$2,000 per year for two years. Funds are to be used to enhance educational interests of the College and the instructor receiving the award.

Part-Time Faculty Complete Academy

Six instructors completed Fall Academy for Part-Time Teachers, a program designed to strengthen the teaching and classroom management skills of associate faculty.

Traci Borum, English instructor, **Maggie Kelly**, health information technology instructor, **Melissa Kravetz**, dental hygiene instructor, **Suzy**

Honeywell, college preparatory English instructor, and **Shannon Cross-Tibbitts** and **Lucinda Presley**, both fine arts instructors, finished the six-week training.

The Academy provides strategies for planning instruction, teaching adults, using technology, and creating quality exams. Participants also study the role of the community college, diversity in the classroom, and legal issues of instruction. Participants are mentored by a veteran faculty member from their college. TJC's mentors included **Carla Thiel**, **Charlotte Creason**, **Julie Mettlen**, **Susie Johnston**, and **Barbara Holland**. The Academy was directed by Dr. Suzanne Marrs, professional development administrator.

The Academy was created through a partnership of Northeast Texas Community College, Paris Junior College, Collin County Community College District, Tomball College, and TJC and is supported with funds from the Carl Perkins Discretionary Grant Program, administered by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Associate Degree Nursing Program Earn Accolades

The associate degree nursing department recently received notification of continued full accreditation status by the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners. This is the 50th year the program has been fully accredited.

In addition, the Board of Nurse Examiners commended the department for the high number of graduates, 91.9%, who passed the National Council Licensure Examination for registered nurses last year.

Trustees Beaird, Thomas Will Not Seek New Terms

Long-time members of the Board of Trustees Harold C. Beaird and Dr. Pat Thomas announced that they would not seek re-election to their Board positions, which expire in May.

Beaird, 73, currently serves as president of the Board and has served as a trustee since 1992. He served a previous two-year term as Board president, 1996-98.

Thomas, 69, has served on the Board since 1973, when he was appointed to fill the un-expired term of Ira Hildebrand. He was elected to his first six-year term in April of 1974. He served as Board president from 1984-86 and 2000-02.

Said Beaird, "My time on this Board has been one of the highlights of my life. Tyler Junior College has had a positive impact on both the community and the large number of students who have studied here through the years. It has been a privilege for me to be a part of the recent history of this school."

Beaird attended TJC from 1947-49. He was a member of the first TJC Band.

Thomas said he believes the College is entering an exciting era, even though substantial challenges exist in funding and preparing for additional growth.

"I think the College has done a remarkable job of retaining quality instruction, programs and facilities in spite of declining state revenues," he said. "We'll continue to support the College. We believe in it greatly."

Dr. Crowe said he regrets that both men will not be a part of the Board but expressed appreciation for their contributions.

"Pat Thomas and Harold Beaird are among the best friends this College has ever had," he said. "Their contributions to the development of this institution through leadership and gifts from their own personal resources is almost immeasurable. Both Harold and Pat have assisted students with their scholarship contributions. They gave from the heart to help this College and we are grateful for that. I know their admiration for TJC will continue. We appreciate everything they have done."

MEDICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIPS—Suzanne Handley, left, scholarship chair of the Smith County Medical Society Alliance and Dr. Danielle Dolence, right, present a check to Tina Douglas Tallant, TJC sophomore nursing student, representing scholarships awarded to students in the School of Allied Health and Nursing. For fall and spring semesters 2003-04, the Alliance awarded 21 TJC students a total of \$7,300 raised by selling used books at its annual Book Fair.



Belles Hope You Will Tune In to Spring Show

The Apache Belles will present their annual Spring Show, April 1–3, in Wise Auditorium.



This year's theme is *KDNS*, 105.6 All Request.

Join the Belles as they take to the airwaves to

move to the hottest hits around.

As always, the Belles will dazzle audiences with their synchronized dance steps and cool costumes.

Shows take place at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for Thursday's Grand Dress rehearsal and \$10 for Friday and Saturday night performances. Grand Dress tickets are general admission while Friday and Saturday night tickets are reserved seating.

Tickets will go on sale March 19 and may be purchased at the White Administrative Services Center Cashier's Office or by telephone at 903–510–2672.

Two Shows Remain In Theatre Schedule

Becoming Memories, by Arthur Giron, will recount real-life histories at 7:30 p.m. April 27–May 1, with a 2 p.m. matinee on May 2 in the Jean Browne Theatre.

Directed by Dr. David W. Crawford, Speech/Theatre Department chair, the play follows five families through three generations celebrating the world of courtship, marriage and the many side roads taken or passed up that change the shape of family trees forever.

Crawford will also direct a Texas trilogy he has written that chronicles the life of a Texas high plains cotton farmer, Rick Childress, beginning when he's 25. *Harvest* will close out the season at 7:30 p.m. July 1–3 in the Jean Browne Theatre.

Part 1 of the three original one-acts, *Barren Fields*, has been published by Players Press and produced professionally. Childress is 42 in part 2, *Squaring*, and 69 in part 3, *End of the Row*. They take place on a farm 12 miles out of Estelline, Texas, and tell the story of the relationship between a man and the land.

Dance Academy Sets Dancefest Show Dates

The TJC Academy of Dance will present Dancefest 2004 at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 30, and Saturday, May 1, in Wise Auditorium. All tickets are \$2 and may be purchased at the White Administrative Services Center Cashier's Office beginning April 28.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to see an exciting show featuring Dance Academy members and students performing a variety of dances including creative movement and preparatory ballet, classical ballet, modern dance, jazz, tap and hip hop," Mary Burns, Academy of Dance director, said.

Original choreography will be created by the TJC dance faculty and Academy of Dance students.

For more information about Dancefest and TJC dance programs, visit www.tjc.edu or call 903–510–2128 or 903–510–2027.

Annual International Day Event A Cultural Journey

Enjoy food, music, dances, exhibits and arts and crafts from around the world during the College's 14th annual International Day, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., April 20, in the Apache Rooms of Rogers Student Center. Admission is free.

Texas and more than 50 countries including Albania, Australia, China, Egypt, England, Ethiopia, Germany, Greece, Holland, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirate, USA, Venezuela and Zimbabwe will be represented.

Harmony and Understanding will perform, and other entertainment will include Middle Eastern, Mexican, Hawaiian, African and Peruvian music and dances.

A fashion show will feature native dress from countries such as China, Egypt, India, Lebanon and Thailand. In addition to samples of food and drinks from around the world, CiCi Pizza, Goldenbrook and Coca-Cola will provide lunch.

For more information, visit <http://socialscience.tjc.edu/mkho/day/index.htm> or contact Dr. Manouchehr Khosrowshahi at mkho@tjc.edu or 903–510–2279.

A Cappella Choir Sets Spring Choral Concert

The music and dance department has scheduled a Spring Choral Concert, Tuesday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m. in Wise Auditorium. The program will include traditional choral literature, with A Cappella Choir singing *Awake the Harp* and *The Heaven's Are Telling* from *The Creation* by Haydn and *Ye Followers of the Lamb* arranged by Edwin Ferguson. Other composers to be represented are Eugene Butler, Lloyd Pfautsch, and David Peninger. The choir will also perform *One Voice*, in an arrangement of Barry Manilow's piece and *Londonderry Air* arranged by Arthur Frackenpohl.

Several selections from popular musicals and a gospel number round out the second part. The A Cappella Choir began in 1946 as the College Chorus under Clyde Wolford's direction. In the 1950s John Hunter accepted the choral position and renamed the popular group "The Singing Apaches."

After Mr. Hunter's resignation, J. W. Johnson directed the choir for 25 years and initiated the first of many annual musicals in 1969. Recent directors have been Steven Nelms, Patty Highfill McKinney, Andrew Skoog and Cheryl Rogers.

Sign Language Club, Deaf Students Plan Variety Show

The American Sign Language Club and the Deaf Students Club will present their annual Variety Show on Thursday, April 8, from 6:30–8:30 p.m., in Wise Auditorium. Tickets are \$1 each but are free for students and faculty who present their TJC identification cards. Doors open at 6 p.m. This is the eighth year for the show, which has drawn increasing attendance each year.

This year's show title is "Signs on Broadway." The show will include performances by the TJC deaf and hard of hearing students, TJC interpreter training department students, members of the ASL Club, members of TJC Deaf Club, TJC deaf alumni, TJC interpreters and other members of the East Texas deaf community.

The show is directed by Tina Dillman and Jeanie Brookshire. Masters of ceremony for the program area students Ben Williams and Anna Botello. The entire show will be presented in sign language with voice interpreters provided.

History Project Chronicles War

TJC Participation Now Providing Historical Study for Scholars

Their stories are sober reminders of wars past and prices paid.

For many war veterans, participating in the Veterans History Project means traveling back to a place long ago abandoned, reliving scenes they hadn't described even to their closest friends and family members.

For the good of a national archive, they sit with a trained interviewer and describe the atrocities of war. Their stories are being submitted in DVD format to the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, for historians and students to access for educational purposes.

The Veterans History Project was established by Congress in October 2000 as a means of chronicling the stories and memories of America's war veterans before the opportunity passes. Tyler Junior College became a participant in the project at the recommendation of Bobbye Rucker, then Seniors College coordinator for the School of Continuing Studies. During 2003, approximately 150 interviews were conducted by TJC personnel and trained volunteers.

"The stories of these men and women are incredible," Rucker said. "They are a treasure we must not let slip away."

The Seniors College portion of the project culminated with a Veterans Day presentation in Wise Auditorium that attracted more than 400 veterans, friends and relatives.

For her efforts in collecting war stories of area veterans, Rucker was named to a seven-member national advisory panel for the Library of Congress. She is now working on grants to further her efforts to utilize the nation's college students to



Scholars Academy freshman student Ellen Krafve with Oliver "Red" Allen. Allen, a survivor of the Bataan Death March, described his experiences in a book written by his wife and also participated in the TJC veterans project.

record veteran experiences.

What Rucker began now continues under the auspices of the TJC Scholars Academy.

This spring, TJC history instructor Linda Cross and trained interviewers continued to chronicle the memories of area veterans, adding to the national archive and contributing to the educational experiences of TJC students enrolled in honors history.

Cross saw the opportunity for the project to benefit the studies of Scholars Academy students, providing them personal testimonials from veterans who served in the wars being covered in their History 1302 curriculum.

"For our students to meet with these veterans, develop an outline, do the necessary research and then interview them is an incredible experience," she said. "They may not all fully appreciate what it means now, but I know they will some day. They're interviewing World War II veterans who have first-hand accounts of history."

Cross would like to see the project continue in years to come, perhaps with an annual year-end trip to the Library of

Congress for sophomore students of the Academy.

"What a tremendous experience it would be for them to be able to make that trip and submit the year's collection of TJC interviews to the Library of Congress," she said.

During the summer, Cross interviewed approximately 15

veterans herself, including the late Judge Harry L. Loftis.

During World War II, Loftis served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as one of approximately 6,000 volunteer glider pilots who were dropped into combat zones or behind enemy lines.

In his interview, he recalled a particular drop in the south of France, just days after D-Day.

"Luckily, as it turned out, I was the first plane in our echelon along in fours, as we were going in to cut loose. I had picked a grape vineyard, in between two viaducts (to land). ... The landing was simple but something amazing happened. I had never heard so much noise, and all of the sudden I had dirt all over me—and I hadn't made a bad landing. I had landed in the grape vineyard and the vineyard had steel jackets and stakes had been driven (into the jackets). Now, I can't tell you whether this was the work of the Germans—they had put poles in other places, so they may have done so—or whether these were used by the French to put their vines on. I don't have any idea. But it chewed the end of my glider up so bad that all I had to do was to

By Fred M. Peters

Experiences of Area Veterans

step down and walk out of the front of the glider. ...

"Gliders were fighting everywhere to come in (and find landing space) and I saw a big crash up ahead of me. I ran over and I heard screaming and the anguish of the boy inside. He was praying 'blessed Mary, mother of Jesus.' I crawled in and it was a very dear friend of mine that I had trained with back in the states, named Alto. He died there in my arms. He was just crushed.

"We had lost many people to bad fields. But that was the life of a glider pilot. We knew that when we started."

Loftis received numerous citations for his bravery and service. He was asked to cease flying glider missions after the fourth successful mission, Cross said, because the odds of surviving another were so slim.

Judge Loftis passed away in December.

"He was such a neat man and so proud of his experiences," Cross said of Loftis. "He was very interested in flight. The glider program was an effort that not too many people participated in. They were a really special group."

Three other TJC Board members, Dr. Sam Houston (retired), Dr. Pat Thomas and Hollis Pinyan participated in the veterans project.

Pinyan's service in Korea in the U.S. Army was a brief but life-changing experience.

Enlisted as an officer candidate and assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas, Pinyan became impatient with the wait for an officer training position and dropped the application. He was immediately sent to Korea, assigned to the infantry and named a squad leader.

Two months and two days after his arrival in Korea, Pinyan received an order to go to the headquarters bunker. On the way he was attacked by sniper fire. His abdominal injuries required several surgeries. Pinyan spent eight months in



Dr. Sam Houston, right of center, poses for a photo with others assigned to his detail in Vietnam.

two hospitals before returning to the U.S., where he would require two more surgeries. In August 1953 he was returned to Fort Riley and discharged from service in January 1954.

"I enjoyed the service and even considered staying in because I liked it so much," he said. "I wouldn't trade the experience even though I was shot. I received great medical treatment or I wouldn't be here today. I'm grateful for it."

Pinyan received the Purple Heart, a UN Ribbon, a Good Conduct Ribbon and the Combat Infantrymen's Badge.

Dr. Thomas and Dr. Houston both served during Vietnam, but had quite different experiences.

Dr. Thomas served in a hospital setting performing surgery on incoming wounded, while Dr. Houston was assigned to the field. "He even wound up helping villagers with non-emergency problems," Cross said.

One of the first interviews to be conducted this spring was with Oliver "Red" Allen who was on the Philippine island of Bataan when it was attacked by Japanese in April of 1942. A survivor of the Bataan Death March, Allen told of his battles with

malaria, narrow escape from U.S. torpedo attacks while aboard a Japanese ship headed from the Philippines to Korea, and later his prisoner camp existence in Manchuria, China.

Allen was one of the fortunate ones, not only to survive the Death March on which an estimated 17,000 to 20,000 soldiers died, but to have lived through POW camp in Manchuria, where many soldiers were marched into ambush and executed for their "escape" from camp.

Allen's accounts were also a part of a continuing education course offered by the College last fall.

"His story is incredible and throughout his telling about how he survived the march and POW camp you know there was an angel looking over him for him to have lived," Cross said.

Both Cross and Rucker, who now lives in the Dallas area, hope TJC and other colleges can continue to be involved in the retelling of American war history.

"I think the project has a natural connection with the historical studies of college students, particularly those in an honors program like TJC's Scholars Academy," Rucker said recently. "For the sake of students and veterans, I hope the project can continue." **T**



U.S. Congressman Ralph Hall, right, who served the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant-senior grade aircraft carrier pilot from 1942 to 1945, also participated in the veterans project. He and Judge Harry Loftis posed for this photo with Bobbye Rucker following the November 11 Veterans Day ceremony at Wise Auditorium.

TJC Maintains Thai Ties

Eating Kentucky Fried Chicken from a bucket for dinner and awaking to the aroma of coffee and fried bacon are such common occurrences in the U.S. that most college students don't give them a second thought. More than three decades later, those first experiences in Texas are still vivid for Dr. Nirund Jivasantikarn ('68) who traveled from his home in Lampang, Thailand, north of Bangkok, to join his brother, Narith, ('67) at Tyler Junior College.

A Peace Corps volunteer working in Thailand, Tom Arthur, had become friends with the Jivasantikarn family and made arrangements for Narith to enroll at his alma mater.

In Thailand, Nirund, whose goal was to become a medical doctor, had been accepted into medical school and had completed one year of pre-med studies. However, he was unhappy, and Narith arranged

with Dr. E.M. Potter, who was dean of students, to offer Nirund work/scholarship assistance. Having watched numerous American movies, Nirund was thrilled. "I'm going to America, wow!"

Although the brothers attended Catholic schools in Thailand, where ninety-five percent of the people are Buddhists, they found a home at the TJC Baptist

Student Union and at the First Baptist Church in downtown Tyler. "They would hug us. We weren't use to hugging," he said with a chuckle. Both men became Christians. The pastor, Dr. William Shamburger, gave Narith a Biblical name, "Paul," and called Nirund, "Nick."

Affectionately known now as Dr. Nick, he remembers the warmth and kindness of TJC and BSU students. "The campus was beautiful and the students were very friendly," he said. "After class, we'd go to

the Baptist Student Union. We would play chess or ping-pong and watch TV which helped me learn English."

Additionally, Dr. Nick found TJC instructors, especially his chemistry teacher, James Wicks, kind and helpful. "He was a great teacher. I had some language difficulty, but Mr. Wicks was very understanding and spent extra time helping me," he said.

However, one

expression had him confused. One afternoon, after a long explanation of a chemical reaction, Wicks looked at the student and asked, "You got the picture?"

Wondering what a picture had to do with it, the 21-year-old foreign student reached into his wallet and showed Wicks a family photo. Wicks laughed and explained that he meant, "Do you understand?"

Nevertheless, Nick made rapid progress in the class and became a lab assistant the

following semester.

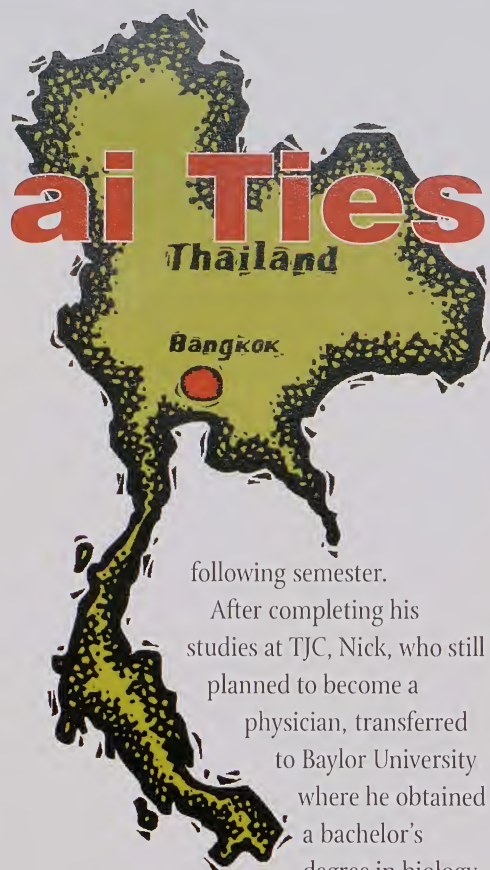
After completing his studies at TJC, Nick, who still planned to become a physician, transferred to Baylor University where he obtained a bachelor's degree in biology.

Like many university students in the 1970's, he was influenced by the environmental movement, and he changed his career plans obtaining a master's degree in wildlife science at Texas A&M University where his brother, Narith, was studying engineering.

Then he returned to Thailand and became an instructor at Lampang's College of Commerce and Technology. After five years and several promotions, he was appointed director of administration for the college. During three years as the chief administrator, he expanded the curriculum, increased enrollment and established relationships with U.S. schools.

Moreover, he was determined to improve the advanced educational system in northern Thailand and, by doing this, to achieve his long-term goal of contributing to Thailand's overall development. He returned to the United States and in 1981 earned a doctorate in education administration from Baylor University.

Having raised more than six million dollars in the United States, he founded Yonok College in his hometown of Lampang. The college is unique in



Paul, left, and Nick were welcomed to Apacheland in the Campus Life section of the 1967 Yearbook.

By Nita Wilson

Thailand as it is based on U.S. institutions with interactive teaching styles and scenic campuses like TJC. In a country where Christians number approximately one percent of the population, the college is also the first in Thailand to have a Baptist Student Union modeled after the one at TJC. "I wanted a college where the students were cared for and loved," Dr. Nick said. "The BSU is dear to my heart. I said I must have this to serve our students."

When Yonok opened in 1988, 120 students enrolled. Today, with more than 1,400 students, Yonok offers 16 undergraduate degree programs and master's programs in business administration and in education. The college also offers several courses to the people in Lampang and surrounding communities.

In an ongoing effort to improve the curriculum and growth of Yonok College, Dr. Nick has established academic and professional relationships with Stanford, Baylor and Texas Wesleyan Universities and Babson College. He has also founded organizations in the United States and Thailand to support the college and the development of northern Thailand. They include the American Thai Foundation for Education, the American Thai Christian Foundation, the American Thai Education Development Foundation and Thailand's Yonok Foundation.

To promote friendly relations between Thailand and the United States, he has founded the Lampang Chapter of the Friendship Force International, and he has served as the director of the Thai-American Technical Cooperation Association.

Through the years, Dr. Nick has received many honors including a lifetime appointment as honorary consul to Belgium.

In addition, he has held offices in a number of civic organizations such as president of Stanford Parents Thailand, vice president and founding secretary of Lampang's Chamber of Commerce, founding president of Assumption



From left, Dr. Kent Boozer, Tony Tadasa, Dr. Nick, Florrie Wallace and Tina Busch enjoyed looking at yearbooks and reminiscing.

College's Parent-Teacher Association, president of Lampang's Lions Club and chairman of the Lampang Police Department Advisory Board.

Also politically active, he served as a member of Thailand's Constitution Drafting Assembly, National Broadcasting Commission, Joint Government and Private Cooperation Committee and as President of Lampang's City Council. His future plans include a run for political office, possibly for the Thailand Senate.

Near Yonok, Narith owns a technical college, Lamp-Tech, with a swimming pool and a scholarship named in honor of Dr. Potter.

Although Dr. Nick changed his career plans, he's very happy with the path he chose. He feels very blessed with a lovely family. His wife of 30 years, Dr. Petchrin Jivasantikarn, has given up her medical practice to serve as an administrator at Lampang Hospital and to teach at the school of medicine in Thailand. His annual trips to meet with friends and supporters in the U.S. now include visits with their son, Ekapon,

also known as "Nick" who is a Stanford graduate working on a master's at Johns Hopkins and an MBA at Wharton, and their daughter, Benjapon "Nock," who is a graduate of Baylor University continuing her studies at Babson College.

Dr. Nick believes the course his life has taken was planned by God. "He took me from Thailand. He wanted me to go to the United States, become a Christian and return home to start a college and start a church."

In October, he returned to TJC for a Homecoming BSU reunion, and he met with Baylor University graduates who had taught at Yonok.

In a strange twist of circumstances, one of those Baylor grads, Tina Busch, TJC Corporate Services director, had decided to quench her hunger for Thai food by preparing Thai red curry which she shared with her West Campus associates including Tony Tadasa, Tyler Area Business Incubator director.

Tadasa, who came to TJC from Japan, mentioned that he had two friends from Thailand, Nick and Paul Jivasantikarn. Busch was surprised to learn of the Thai—TJC ties that have lasted since 1965 when a Peace Corps volunteer helped one student. ¶



Dr. Nick's wife, Dr. Petchrin Jivasantikarn, their son, Nick, and daughter, Nock, wait to greet Thai royalty HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at Yonok College.

New Board Members Uzzell, Hills

Recall Importance of Solid Foundation

Both Credit TJC with Providing Groundwork for Their Academic and Business Success

Growing up, **Lonny Uzzell** never imagined going to college anywhere but Tyler Junior College. After all, his brothers had both attended TJC and the family often attended TJC basketball and football games.

Uzzell recalled recently that finding a seat in Wagstaff Gymnasium when the Apaches were playing under the leadership of legendary coach Floyd Wagstaff was not easy.

The Apaches provided some of the best entertainment in town and home games were standing room only.

When he was offered an opportunity to play baseball at TJC, it made the decision to follow in his brothers' footsteps even easier.

"I liked the idea, coming out of high school, of having a smaller environment and TJC certainly provides that," he said. "It was more of a one-on-one educational process than I felt like I could get at any other school. At that point in my life I had never considered going anywhere else.

"We had grown up admiring the athletes and the atmosphere of Tyler Junior College as kids. It was a great compliment to me to be asked to play baseball. As it turns out, we weren't very good, but we had a lot of fun."

Uzzell played pitcher and first base. More importantly, he flourished in the nurturing academic environment that he sees as so instrumental in the College's success even today.

"I hear quite often, now that I have a son who is a second-semester freshman, from people who have children that age how important getting that first year or two years

of the basics is, how it will allow you to focus further on, at the next level. And it is true."

Uzzell graduated TJC with an associate in arts degree in 1973 and moved on to The University of Texas at Austin. Following college, he went to work in Dallas, then returned to Tyler, where he joined Southside Bank in 1980. He now serves as executive vice president.

Uzzell, 50, was appointed to Place 6 of the TJC Board of Trustees in April of 2003, to fill the un-expired term of James Fair who resigned earlier that month.



Uzzell says it is an honor for him to serve a college that has meant so much to his family. His wife, Kelley Evans Uzzell, is a 1977 graduate and a former Apache Belle.

"To be able to serve on a board of an institution that has done so much for me personally and so much for the community for so many years, both educating kids and providing economic assistance to the business leaders—to be a part of the history of the institution as a member of the board—if that doesn't make you

excited and honored, then you need to check your blood pressure."

Uzzell sees the College's primary challenges over the next decade as dealing with growth in a manner that does not deter the personal attention instructors are able to provide their students.

"I do firmly believe that with the big schools doing what they're allowed now to do with tuition, we're going to see a major increase in enrollment. And how we handle all phases of that growth: parking lots, housing, classrooms, teachers, is extremely important."

Uzzell said he believes the College is fortunate to have a Board of Trustees with a genuine interest and a personal relationship with the College.

"I hope to continue serving on the Board and help make decisions to continue the service of the College to our city and this community. Administratively, the College is in good hands, so it's really an honor to be a part of it in this capacity."

Uzzell's oldest son, Mark, also attended TJC. He is a second-semester freshman at The University of Texas at Tyler and is in the qualifying process for the school's six-member golf team.

His younger brother, Matt, is a sophomore at Tyler's Robert E. Lee High School and plays football and baseball.

"The caring, nurturing feeling that you get from instructors at this level as compared to those at the next level is much different," he said.

"If you apply yourself at TJC you can succeed."

If John Hills had followed his desire as a sophomore in high school, he might never have attended Tyler Junior College. As it turns out, he's quite happy that he did and he's excited about serving on the College's Board of Trustees.

The newest member to the nine-member Board, Hills was appointed to fill the un-expired Place 4 term of Eugene Allen, D.D.S., who resigned in July 2003. Hills' nomination was approved in August and he was sworn in to join the Board in September.

The son and grandson of Cornell University graduates, Hills announced to his father at the age of 16 that he wanted to follow in his family's footsteps and attend Cornell as an engineering major.

Wisely, his father asked that he find out the cost of attending Cornell as an out-of-state student and that he compare it to Texas colleges and universities and report back to him. With the information in hand, his dad made an offer he couldn't refuse.

"He said if I would attend one of the state schools instead, he would agree to pay for me to go to graduate school at Cornell," Hills recalled recently. "Basically, it was going to cost as much to go to Cornell for one year as an out-of-state student as it was going to cost for four years here."

The offer sounded good to John, so upon graduation from John Tyler High School he enrolled at TJC. Today, he recognizes how wise the offer from his dad was—in several ways.

"He was smarter than me because he knew if I ever got a bachelor's degree I would probably never be back in school," John quipped.

"It was good for me because I was able to get the basics out of the way and I graduated and went on to The University of Texas and got a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. ... Tyler Junior College was of great benefit to me because starting off right out of high school into an engineering program at Texas I probably would have never made it. I probably would have

wound up changing majors or going to Vietnam because I just didn't have the maturity at that point to buckle down.

"TJC gave me the opportunity to get all the basics done and with great quality instruction. When I went to Texas I was so afraid that I was going to flunk out because I had so many friends who had done that."

However, with the solid foundation TJC provided, Hills said, he wound up with a higher grade-point average in courses taken at UT than he had in his work at TJC.

Like so many who have served on the Board of Trustees, Hills covets the attention to academic excellence and the one-to-one tutelage TJC provides. He feels protecting that nurturing environment is an important part of serving on the Board.



"I just feel that TJC not only provided such a great start for me and my wife but that it provides that same opportunity for the whole city of Tyler," he said. "It's just such a great institution and a great opportunity to get college experience without having to move away from home. Not everyone completes their degree when they start (at TJC) but it gives them the opportunity to see what college life is like, if nothing else, and that's important, too."

Preserving the intimacy students feel with their instructors and support staff in a day of falling state revenues and a rising enrollment will not be easy, he admits.

"Unless we have a change at the Legislature, I think growth is going to be our biggest challenge. And, as long as we

have the top 10 percent acceptance rule at state schools, we're going to have continued growth. ... I think TJC is going to continue to attract a larger and larger portion of students who are highly qualified but yet not able to get into the school of their first choice. We're going to grow in the number of students and also in the quality of students we attract.

"It's all good news for TJC but it also means we have to be prepared for more students and to make decisions as to how to do that without driving the cost up."

Hills also says the increased attention to technical and workforce training courses with the addition of the Skills Training Center and the designation of the West Campus will be of great benefit to students of the future.

"The good part about the technical courses TJC offers is that the technical programs are driven by industry. The College responds to what industry needs, so you know there are lots of job opportunities immediately available."

Hills met his wife, Janet, at TJC. They both transferred to Austin after completing their two years of study at TJC, in 1970. They married during their senior year at UT, nullifying his dad's offer for graduate school.

"Dad was off the hook by that time. I had to graduate and get a job," he said.

The couple remained in Austin following graduation and returned to Tyler in 1975. Hills is now general partner with R.L. Ray, Ltd., an independent oil and gas company based in Tyler.

He and Janet have two daughters, Kathryn Hills Brewer and Laren Hills of Arlington, both of whom took courses at TJC. Kathryn and her husband Brady have two children, Cody and Hadley. ¶

Because both Uzzell and Hills were elected to fill unexpired terms, law requires that an election be held at the next scheduled opportunity at which board positions would expire, which is May of this year. Both new trustees filed to retain their seats the first week of filing.

Hotter, Loftis Shared Pass

Dr. Edward M. Potter and Judge Harry L. Loftis contributed 76 years to a passion they each acquired in their formative years as students at Tyler Junior College. They went on to make enormous contributions to the institution that gave them their first exposure to higher education. This winter, the College and countless friends and loved ones said goodbye to the two TJC legends, each of whom pioneered new ground during periods of dramatic growth and change in Apacheland.

A graduate of Tyler High School and a member of the first class of Tyler Junior College in 1926, Dr. Edward M. Potter died on his 96th birthday, November 26, 2003, in Tyler. Those who worked with and for him remember him as a man of compassion and genuine interest in students. While a student himself at TJC he met his late wife of 65 years, Myra Aline Brooks, another of the College's first class.



Dr. Potter at his desk in 1949.

A popular student with an interest in theatre, Potter was credited with naming TJC's first extra-curricular organization, Las Mascaras.

After graduating from TJC, he attended The University of Texas at Austin where he received bachelor's and master's degrees. He completed graduate work at Colorado State University, The University of Texas at Austin, The University of California at Berkeley and Harvard University. He received a doctorate from East Texas Baptist University where he served on the Board of Trustees.

He devoted his life to students and education. First, he was as a teacher at Big Lake and Galveston. Then he became principal of Douglas Elementary School in Tyler. When he returned to Tyler after serving in the Pacific Theatre during World War II, he was chosen administrative dean at Tyler Junior College. In 1966, he was named vice president. He retired in 1973; however, he returned the following year as a member of the Board of Trustees where he served until he resigned in 1992.

Although, he's credited for the development of many programs at TJC, including Hudnall Planetarium, perhaps the people whose lives he touched are his most lasting legacy.

Maxene Robinson, who worked as Dr. Potter's secretary from 1958 until his retirement, admired his sincere dedication to TJC and caring for others. "He was just a very nice, gentle person," she said. "He loved TJC. He loved the students, faculty and the staff, and he always wanted to look after them. That

was one of his priorities."

She recalls pre-computer days when they were assigning students to summer school classes. "We did everything by hand, and Dr. Potter was working so that students didn't have back to back classes. He wanted them to have a break after a class," she said. "He wanted students to succeed. He was especially concerned about foreign students."

Narith "Paul" Jivasantikarn came to the United States and Tyler Junior College from his home in Thailand in 1966. Dr. Potter helped arrange financial assistance for him and his brother, Nirund "Nick." Both men continued their studies after graduating from TJC and founded colleges in their hometown of Lampang, Thailand. Paul founded Lamp-Tech College where he named a swimming pool complex and a scholarship in honor of Dr. Potter.

He said the kindness of Dr. Potter is always in his memory. "He gave Nick and me the most important opportunities of our lives, the scholarships at Tyler Junior College. What we learned in the U.S.A. has meant so very much, and it gave us fortune in our later years."

Linda Cross, TJC history instructor, remembers Dr. Potter as a warm, compassionate, outgoing man with a great sense of humor. "He loved TJC, and it was a love affair for life," she said. "He was a commanding presence on campus, and when you saw him he always greeted you with a smile. I never saw him angry or mad. He was always polite and pleasant. He was a great role model."

tion for TJC

When she was a student, she introduced herself to him and shared her plans to return to TJC as an instructor. "He always remembered me after that," she said.

After she joined the faculty, she learned they had a lot in common. "Sometimes he'd drop by my office to talk about history. He was a typical grandfather, and he enjoyed taking his grandchildren to historical sites. We were both basketball fans. I saw him and his wife at every game."

She believes that his service on the Board of Trustees was important because he brought to the position knowledge that he had gained serving as a dean and as vice president for many years. "He was a visionary, and he worked to get a pay raise for instructors because he knew it would help attract good faculty."

Dr. Edwin Fowler, retired TJC band director, considered Dr. Potter a builder. "He helped make Tyler Junior College what it is today. He and Dr. Jenkins did a super job of building Tyler Junior College and establishing its good reputation." He believes that one of Dr. Potter's outstanding characteristics was his ability to work with young people. "He had their interests at heart, and he was genuinely interested in helping them and giving them opportunities."

Dr. Potter was also devoted to his daughter Eleanor Aline Potter Morris and son-in-law Gerald Morris, of Tyler; a grandson, Craig L. Morris of Houston; a granddaughter, Pamela Morris Ward of Tyler; and a great grandson, Trey G. Youngblood of Tyler.

Dr. William R. Crowe, president of Tyler Junior College, eulogized Dr. Potter's vision. "When he returned to Tyler after military service, he was offered his job back at Douglas Elementary School. However, he accepted the position of assistant dean at Tyler Junior College although his salary was lower."

At that time, enrollment at the college was also low, and college students shared facilities with the high school downtown. The future of the college was uncertain, but an influx of men enrolling under the G.I. Bill made expansion to a larger campus necessary.

After Dr. Potter became dean in August 1946, he was instrumental in the transition to the present location on Fifth Street.

"Dr. Potter worked to establish programs, design buildings, plan the campus and attract students. With the heel of his shoe, he marked where he wanted trees planted," Dr. Crowe said. "He was a great man who loved students and loved Tyler Junior College."

Dr. Potter was a unique man who advanced from being a member of the first class at Tyler Junior College to serving as a member of the Board of Trustees. Along the way, he influenced many people with the magnetism of his personality and the warmth of his heart. He helped many students and touched lives worldwide.



Dr. Edward M. Potter
1907-2003



Judge Harry Loftis
1921-2003

Judge Harry Loftis, '42, dedicated most of his life to public service. That service included 30 years as a member of the Tyler Junior College Board of Trustees.

Judge Loftis died December 9 in Tyler. He was 82.

After graduating from Tyler High School, he attended Tyler Junior College. Not long after completing study at TJC, he served with the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II, as one of approximately 6,000 glider pilots who were dropped into combat zones and behind enemy lines. Amazingly, he survived four drops and was recognized for his valiant service with several medals and citations.

Last year he participated in the Veterans History Project, the national archive of war recollections to be maintained by the Library of Congress. His recollection of a particular glider drop in the South of France is included in the Apache's summary of the veterans project, on pages 10 and 11.

Loftis returned to the classroom at The University of Texas at Austin, graduating from its School of Law.

He served Smith County for 13 years as district attorney and then as county judge. In 1966 he was elected to the TJC Board of Trustees.

Continued on next page

SPECIAL FEATURE

In 1966 he was elected to the TJC Board of Trustees.

In 1996, the Tyler Junior College Alumni Association recognized his leadership and service to his community with the Outstanding Public Service Award. He was also a recipient of the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce T.B. Butler Award which recognizes contributions in leadership, service or community improvements, and he received the prestigious Tyler Jaycees Earl Story Award.

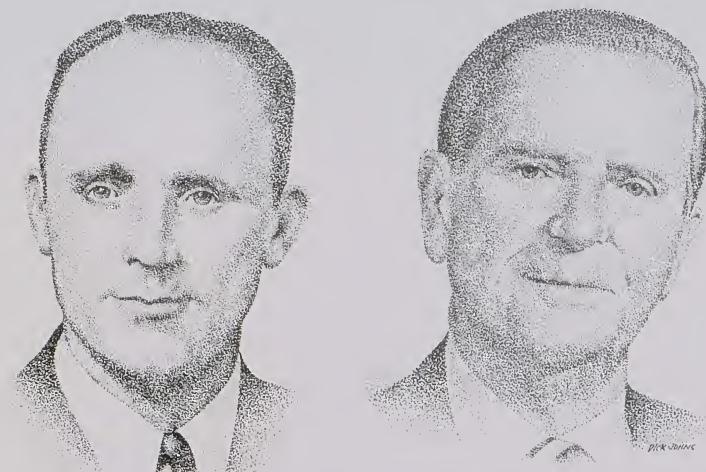
Loftis was a director and chairman of the board of Rose Capital Bank and a lieutenant governor of Kiwanis International.

For many years, he served on the Board of Stewards and taught the Friendly Bible Class at Marvin United Methodist Church. In addition, he was an active member of numerous civic and charitable organizations serving as a president or board member of Tyler Jaycees, Texas Junior Bar Association, Smith County Red Cross, Tyler YMCA, Kiwanis Club, Strutters, Mother Frances Advisory Board, Tuberculosis Association and the Tyler Chamber of Commerce.

"Judge Loftis contributed a lot to Tyler Junior College and to the community," said

Dr. Patrick Thomas, who served on the TJC Board with Loftis for 22 years. "He brought integrity, energy and wisdom to the Tyler Junior College Board of Trustees. He taught the Radio Bible Class at Marvin Methodist Church for many years. He was a great Bible teacher, a great lawyer and a great friend. He always did what he thought was best for Tyler Junior College."

Linda Cross, long-time TJC history instructor and the interviewer for Judge Loftis's Veterans History Project participation, described Judge Loftis and his wife, Margaret, as unselfish people, always willing to help others. "They encircled everyone around them," she said. "He gave both time and money, and TJC benefited a great deal from that." Although most people knew Judge Loftis from his service



Artist Dick Johns, whose mother was a member of the first class of Tyler Junior College, created the above portrait drawings of Dr. Potter, left, and Judge Loftis. When Johns was a student at TJC, Dr. Potter was serving as academic dean. "Everyone thought very highly of Dean Potter,"

He was so nice, so vivacious and exciting." She has a particular appreciation for his military service. "Being a glider pilot meant a lot to him, and it was one of the most extraordinary roles in World War II. Few people made four drops behind enemy lines and survived. It was amazing! He beat the odds, and he would have gone again if his commanding officer would have let him. He was very determined."

Loftis is survived by his wife of 57 years, Margaret Ann Loftis, of Tyler, a daughter and son-in-law, Mollie Ann and Robert Halpin, of Dallas, and sons and daughters-in-law, Harry Lee and Charlsa Loftis, of Austin, Michael George and Jenny Loftis, of Dallas, and 10 grandchildren.

"Judge Loftis's service on the TJC Board of Trustees from 1966-96 came during a time of change and growth, and the contributions made through his knowledge and guidance are immeasurable," said Dr. William R. Crowe, TJC president. "He was truly a gentleman and a public servant who served the people of Tyler and Smith County as well as Tyler Junior College. He worked very hard without regard for recognition or personal gain. He will be greatly missed." **TF**



Judge Loftis with his wife, Margaret, and former fellow TJC trustee Dr. Jim Vaughn and his wife, Bonna Bess, in 1996.

More Than 200 Gardeners Attend Botanical Gardens “High Tea”



Gardeners from throughout East Texas had the opportunity to learn about the new Tyler Junior College Botanical Gardens at a special tea held on campus in September. Guests enjoyed high tea provided by Valley Services, a presentation by the Gardens’ designer noted landscape architect Naud Burnett and a tour of the proposed garden sites.

Sponsors for the event included the Tyler Area Council of Garden Clubs, Azalea Garden Club and the Smith County Master Gardener Association. The Gertrude Windsor Garden Club provided flower arrangements.

Following the event, District III of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. adopted the Tyler Junior College Botanical Gardens as the district’s official project and the Tyler Area Council of Garden Clubs presented a generous gift toward the Kathryn Speas horticulture scholarship, bringing the award up to a fean’s level scholarship.

For further information on TJC’s Botanical Gardens, please contact Mitch Andrews at 903-510-2034 or mand@tjc.edu.

Botanical Gardens Advisory Committee member Ina Brundrett (standing) visits with members of the Twilight Tillers Garden Club from Paris, Texas, left to right: Martha Hickman, Doris Bryant and Betty Williamson.



High tea participants, from left to right: Dr. Crowe, TJC President; Ina Brundrett, Botanical Gardens Advisory Committee member; Naud Burnett, conceptual designer for Gardens; Naomi Marksby, Botanical Gardens Advisory Committee member and president of Tyler Area Council of Gardens Clubs; and Mitch Andrews, director of principal gifts, TJC Foundation.



Burnett, at right, leads high tea participants on a tour of proposed garden sites on the TJC campus.

Speech and Theatre Department Receives Japanese Noh Mask

Faculty, students and friends attended a special presentation of a Japanese Noh mask to the College’s speech and theatre department. The mask was a gift from the estate of Dr. Jean Speller Browne. A grateful father gave the mask to Dr. Browne for her mentorship of his daughter, Atsuko Mochida, a former TJC student.

Developed during the 12th and 13th centuries, Noh drama is one of the oldest extant theatrical forms in the world. Essential to the drama are the traditional masks, which are used by each actor in the

play and are passed through generations of Noh actor families. Handcrafted and painted, many of the masks are considered to be great masterpieces of art.

While teaching at TJC, Dr. Browne used the mask to start her semester’s lectures. It was the introduction for many students into the world of theatre. The College hopes to display the mask near the Jean Speller Browne Theatre in the Wise Cultural Arts Building.



At left, Dr. Jean Browne’s daughters, Carol Duckett, left; and Allison Sinclair, right; pose with Dr. David Crawford, TJC instructor/director, speech and theatre; and Atsuko Mochida, former TJC student and Dr. Browne’s “Japanese daughter.” At right, theatre students and cast members of “Look Homeward Angel” get a first-hand look at the Noh mask. From left are Taylor Flowers; Jamie Hamrick; Anthony Martinez; Jacque Shakelford, speech and theatre instructor; and Dr. Crawford.



Friends of the College Enjoy Foundation Christmas Party

Yule Celebratants Gathered at Tyler's Willowbrook Country Club



Left to right: Rohn Boone, Shirley Boone, with Dr. Aubrey Sharpe and Linda Sharpe.



Former TJC Trustee Dr. Sam Houston and his wife, Dr. Edna Houston.



Dr. Kimberly Russell, Sarah Van Cleef, Billie Pye Murphey and Reeves Murphey.



Jill Ramey, Judge Tom Ramey, Rusty Fletcher and Dr. David Fletcher.



B. G. Hartley and Billie Hartley.



The TJC Jazz Band entertained party goers and paused for picture during their break. From left to right, row 1: Jon Montano, Stuart Elmer, Johnny Vishnesky, Luis Rodriguez, Taylor Flowers; row 2: Kelli Christian, Joseph DuBose, Seth Davis, Unknown, Brian McCloskey, Phillip Terrell, Unknown, Kimberly Engle, Roshell Lewis, Unknown, JJ James, Stan Jones, Mark Dorsey, Megan Cotter, Drew Hudson.



Changing Lives!

SINCE 1926



"I chose Tyler Junior College because of the scholarship opportunity, because it was close to home, and because it gave me a chance to finish the basics. Tyler Junior College gave me a great start."

AMBER OXFORD

"Choosing TJC was the best decision I could have made. The scholarship opportunities, the one-on-one experience with teachers and knowing classes will transfer make all the difference."

ASHLEY HAMPTON



***Your scholarship gift can help us
change lives for many generations to come!***

TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE FOUNDATION

For more information contact Dr. Kim Russell at (903) 510-2382 or krus@tjc.edu.

TJC Ironman

Climbs to Top of



Sweeny, as a freshman at TJC, had been recruited by Coach Wag.

“Ironmen Eight”

was the nickname given to the 1966 regional champion Tyler Junior College Apache basketball team composed of only eight players who went on to place seventh at the national tournament.

Even with his reputation on the line, the Apache’s legendary Coach Floyd Wagstaff would not let players failing to earn the grades they needed or not meeting conduct standards to stay on the team. Nevertheless, a roster of eight would not be an excuse to lose.

The team that had achieved much more than was ever expected formed a bond that remains today. Plus, the lessons in working as a team, trying hard and overcoming adversities gave them skills and self-confidence that have helped them become successful in their chosen fields.

Nestled among the towering trees along Texas Highway 69, south of Lufkin, is the corporate headquarters of Temple-Inland Forest Products where Jack Sweeny, one of the Ironmen Eight stars who followed his

By **Nita Wilson**

ancestors into the timber business, now serves as president and chief executive officer.

Recognized in October by the TJC Alumni Association with the Distinguished Alumni Award, Sweeny uses the title of a classic television show “Happy Days” to describe his years at TJC. He emphasizes that the people and relationships at TJC were more important than sports, and the lessons he learned playing basketball were much more significant than the games. “I learned a lot of lessons about teamwork, leadership, making effort and not being afraid to fail. You do that in business to some degree.”

Each season, athletes from different backgrounds form a team and work to achieve a common goal. Until the whistle blows at the end of a game, they don’t know what the outcome will be. “In sports, there are no guarantees. You start the season and you work and you work,” Sweeny said. “There’s a certain risk that everybody takes.”

As the undermanned underdogs, their victories were celebrated by people on campus and in the community. Although the 1966 team did not win the national championship, the team knew it was a special season for Coach Wagstaff. “It was a special group of people for him and for all of us,” Sweeny said. “There’s not much more you can ask for in sports than to have a coach you respect, to have people in the town who support you, to play with people that you like—and to win. That’s a pretty

nice combination. I think that as you get older, you learn to appreciate that more. It was a blessing.”

Another member of the team, Vernon Lewis, said it still amazes him to look back at what the Ironmen Eight accomplished considering that most teams had 22 players, and TJC didn’t have 10 guys for practice. Plus, they were shorter and smaller than most of their opponents. “We were like string beans compared to some of the players on the other teams,” Lewis said. “Basketball is a team sport, and we learned that you don’t have to have great talent if you’re playing as a team,” he said. “We all agree that Coach Wagstaff was a great motivator. He didn’t want to lose, and we didn’t want to lose. We played with heart and soul.”

He describes Sweeny as quiet and committed. “He could shoot really well, and he was definitely a big part of that team.”

However, Sweeny did not consider himself a great athlete, so listening to the coach, learning the game, working and trying hard were important. He says he has a great deal of respect for people who try hard. “I think trying hard is a wonderful thing. There’s virtue in trying hard. That doesn’t mean that you try hard and you’re a super star. Just try hard. At what you do, do the best you can.”



Timber



It's a motto that he has applied to his professional life at Temple-Inland. He wants his associates to know that he's trying and working hard. "We have very high expectations of people who work here. We're not the biggest company in this industry, so we have to be good at what we do. We have to work hard. We have to be smart, and we have to pull together as a team. We have to rejoice in each others' success."

It's one of many characteristics he admired in Coach Wagstaff, who rejected opportunities to coach at large universities and told Sweeny that the good Lord knows what you need. "I never knew anyone more comfortable in his own skin than Floyd Wagstaff. He didn't envy other people's success. He didn't want to be anyone else. He was comfortable being who he was, doing what he did with the family and the life he had," Sweeny said. "I think that's a wonderful gift. It brings you a certain peace. Being comfortable in your own skin is a nice thing. It's a gift from God. I'm comfortable in my own skin."

Although he has been very successful in the business world and on basketball courts, he shared another sports lesson with his daughters, Jennifer and Sara. "Players who are successful have learned how to respond to adversity. I always told

my girls that in life you have to

Jack was joined by his wife, An, and daughters Sara, left, and Jennifer for the 2003 TJC Alumni Awards luncheon where he received the Distinguished Alumni Award.



be willing to try your hardest and fail and live with that because if you're not willing to do that, you'll never try your hardest. You'll never make a real commitment to anything."

He said that he has seen many people who are afraid of failure. Sometimes they don't try, and if they do try it's half-hearted. They always give themselves an excuse. "In sports, if you're in the right environment, you have to learn to try your hardest, and get beat and go workout the next day and learn from those mistakes. You don't turn on your teammates and you don't use excuses. You just go back and work on what you have to work on and go try again. I think both of our girls are willing to do that, and I'm very proud of them."

Understandably, he's also very proud of his wife, An, who organized and works weekly at a Christian Outreach, supported by the Temple Foundation and churches in Diboll, that gives food to needy families. Childhood sweethearts, they've been married 34 years.

Obviously, he made some good choices through the years, and he believes Tyler Junior College was one of those. "You come to a lot of side roads in your life, a lot of little trails, and it doesn't matter whether you go this way or that way, but you go through some major crossroads, and going to Tyler Junior College was one of the first major crossroads in my life. It turned out to be the right road."

Furthermore, he's grateful Coach Wagstaff also valued academics. Therefore, Sweeny had no difficulty in the classroom when he transferred to Texas A&M University where he received a bachelor's degree. "The combination of the two, the sports and the education, really can give you a platform to work off of, and that was all part of the mix in Tyler."

Although he completed the Stanford University Executive Management Program and credits much of his success climbing the corporate ladder to the company, his mentors, associates and Texas A&M, he said the first rung was

Tyler Junior College. The feeling of support and the way he was treated made a lasting impression, and he wants people at Temple-Inland to feel the same way and to share his belief that it is a special place and company. "Maybe that's one reason Tyler was such a good fit for me. I grew up in the company with my dad, and I had seen people who did



Sweeny, at Temple-Inland Forest Products Division corporate headquarters with the portrayal of a lumberjack looking for the right tree, believes it's important for every member of a team, sports and business, to do their best.

the same things in the company and cared about people and were supportive, and then to go to TJC and see it again was very comfortable."

Although playing with a small team was difficult at the time, Sweeny said that looking back it was nice to be one of the Ironmen Eight. "One of the things in sports too, if you accomplish something, nobody can take it away from you. It doesn't change. You can always look back on it." He said the Ironmen Eight title isn't important to him, but it's nice to be remembered. **T**

Homecoming 2003

This year's fall semester was filled with exciting events for students, alumni, employees and friends of the College. From September when we honored some great former athletes at the Sports Circle of Honor banquet through December when the Foundation hosted its Christmas Party, it was a semester to remember.

During Homecoming week we held a special reception at The Java Cup (campus coffee shop) for Tyler area alums. On Friday we had a pep rally luncheon for everyone on the lawn in front of Vaughn Library. Homecoming day started with the Baptist Student Union alumni holding a reunion. After the welcome reception, the Apache Band, led by Dr. Edwin "Pinky" Fowler, played the College fight song and we headed to the Alumni Award ceremony. For a photographic review of all our Homecoming activities plus, the Choir/Harmony reunion in November, see pages 25-28.

Meet Our New Board Members

Daryl Derryberry, Class of '85



Daryl is a member of Derryberry & Zips, P.L.L.C. in Tyler. At Tyler Junior College he was an all conference basketball player and was the recipient of the Outstanding Student in Social Sciences award. He received his bachelor's degree in business administration from St. Mary's University, graduating *cum laude*, in 1988 and graduated from the University of Houston Law Center in 1991. After receiving his law degree, he returned to Tyler and has been working in private practice for the past 12 years.

Karen Roberts, Class of '81



Karen began her legal career in 1994 when she joined her brothers, Randy and Bruce, in the law firm of Roberts & Roberts. At TJC, Karen was a member of Harmony & Understanding and the Choir. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree with honors from the University of Colorado in 1985 and after working several years as a broadcast journalist for NBC affiliates, she received her Doctorate of Jurisprudence from the University of Utah School of Law. Karen and her husband, Richard Maher, have one son and live in Tyler.

TJC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Shirley Mallory, *President*
J. Scott Ellis, *President-elect*
Roy Sulser, *Executive Secretary*
Emma Lou Prater, *Past President*

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J. Blair Blackburn	Nancy Lunceford
Eunice Chancellor	Cindy Nick
Douglas Crawford	Karen Roberts
Daryl Derryberry	Maxene Robinson
Janie Edmonds	John Stephenson
Sherry Harwood	Judy Turman
Carrie Hobbs	Randy Womble
Herb Richardson, <i>Advisory Board</i>	
Betty Briggs, <i>Treasurer/Ex-officio</i>	



photo by Pro Sports Graphics®

Homecoming Week 2003 Receptions and Pep Rally



JAVA Cup Reception

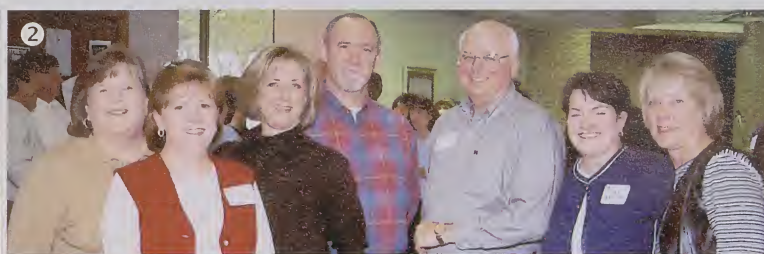
1. Charlotte George and Dr. James Smith reminisce about the 70's.
2. TJC Tyler Area Alumni Chapter enjoy Starbucks coffee & conversation.
3. Charles Langford, Sharon Campbell, Alan Gumble, Gene McKnight and R. R. Gene Reynolds share memories.
4. Dr. William R. Crowe, Ruth Crowe, Emma Lou Prater and Shirley Mallory remember when ...

Campus Pep Rally

5. Linda Cross, Rebecca Bibby and Jeffrey Owens accept the second place Spirit Banner Award for Jenkins Hall.
- 6-8. Almost 2,000 students, faculty, staff and alumni enjoyed lunch on the lawn as the Apache Band, Belles, and Cheerleaders performances ignited Apache spirit.



Homecoming Day 2003 Reunions/Receptions



Baptist Student Union Reunion

1. June Person, Carletta Cates, Jim Appleby, Jerry Calaway, Donna Calaway and Martha Palmer.
2. Phyllis Elliott, Debbie Mills, Diane Johnston, Bill Johnston, David Jones, Liane Beachan, and Vicki Alfred.
3. Debbie Mills, Martha Palmer, Liane Beacham and Phyllis Elliott.
4. Sherry Patterson and Mary Ann Hall enjoying the yearbooks.

Alumni Reception

5. Emma Lou Prater, Laurel Williams, Cindy Nick and Shirley Mallory.
6. Dr. Kim Russell, Betty Briggs, Karen Roberts and the late Terry Churchwell.
7. Dr. Eddie Fowler, Alicia Armstrong, LaValta Fowler and Eunice Chancellor.
8. Michael Ward and Blair Blackburn.



Homecoming Week 2003 Awards Luncheon and Reunions

Alumni Awards Luncheon

1. Dr. William R. Crowe and Shirley Mallory present Jack Sweeny with the Distinguished Alumnus award.
2. Maxene Robinson wins the drawing for the Alumni "spirit bear."
3. Dr. Crowe and Mrs. Mallory present Dr. Cheryl Rogers the Apache Spirit award.
4. Dr. Crowe and Mrs. Mallory presents Billy Hibbs, Jr. the Valuable Young Alumnus award.

Choir/Harmony Reunion

5. J. W. Johnson and Dr. Cheryl Rogers.
6. Audra Davis, Beverly Bugay, Nell Warren, and Richard Davis (father of Audra) enjoy reminiscing.
7. Brooke Hudnall, Sunny Hudnall and Donna Hudnall—a talented family.
8. After the Pops Concert, Kay Robinson and her sister, Maxene Robinson enjoy visiting with Nan Sulser and her daughter, Kimberly, during the reunion held at the Tyler Museum of Art.



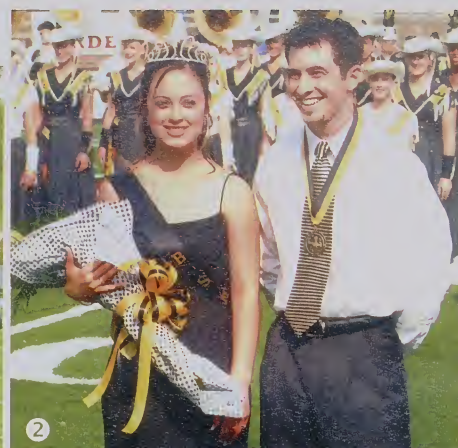
At the Games

Homecoming 2003

1. Dr. "Boss/Pinky" Fowler leads the Apache Band one more time on the Rose Stadium football field.
2. Homecoming Queen Brooke Sabonis and escort Vance Garvey, representing the Baptist Student Ministries.
3. The Apache Band, almost 150 strong, perform at halftime.
4. TOUCHDOWN—TJC!

Heart of Texas Bowl

5. Head Coach Dale Carr introduces the Apache team at the Friday night banquet at Copperas Cove.
6. Defense! Defense! DEFENSE!
7. Apache fans brave the cold to support their team.
8. Alumni Association Past President Emma Lou Prater and current President Shirley Mallory, along with their husbands Kenneth Prater and Leroy Mallory, enjoy the game.



1952

✪ **Marcus Drewa** has spent the past 50 years in health care and the past four years he has served as president emeritus and consultant to Shands Jacksonville who bought Methodist Medical Center. Today he considers himself the hospital's historian and has retired to a life of leisurely walks on the beach and working with his church and community groups.

1970

☆ **Aaron Bonds** has been awarded a scholarship sponsored by the Prevention Resource Center—Region XI (PRC) and attended the TCADA 2003 Prevention Conference held in Houston on November 3–5, 2003. The TCADA Prevention educates the community on the dangers of alcohol and drugs.

1971

Carl David Adams, Dallas, Texas, has been selected for *Who's Who in American Law, 13th Edition (2003–2004)*. *Who's Who in American Law* is a recognized source for information regarding leaders and their accomplishments in the legal profession and was originally founded in 1899 by A.N. Marquis, the original publisher of *Who's Who in America*. He received his B.S. degree from North Texas State University in 1972 and his J.D. degree (*cum laude*) in 1975 from Baylor University School of Law, where he was the top graduate in his August 1975 class and the Notes and Comments Editor for the Baylor Law Review. He is board certified in civil trial law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and is in private practice in Dallas.

1972

☆ **Vickie (McGinty) and George A. Weeks** ('71) now live in Pensacola Beach, Florida. Vicky, a former Apache Belle, retired after 25 years of teaching drill team at Nimitz High School in Houston. Husband George retired as athletic director in Huffman and they are now living their lifetime dream—they moved to the beach! The Weeks have two sons, Travis and Casey. Vicky is the daughter of
 ✪✪ **Coach Charlie and Jackie McGinty.**

1974

✪ **D.M. Edwards** has been elected as board chair for the coming year of 2003–04 of East Texas Baptist University Board of Trustees. D.M. is a Tyler resident owning and operating five businesses in five cities in Texas and Louisiana. He is Chairman and CEO of Edwards Investments. He holds an Associate of Arts degree, *cum laude*, from Tyler Junior College and Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University ('76) having a BBA, with a double major in marketing and management, and a minor in finance. At First Baptist Church, Tyler, he serves as a deacon and has served on the finance and stewardship committees.

✪✪ **Gwenda Dale (Patterson) Gilliam** is the principal at West Rusk Elementary in New London and her husband, **Dennis** ('77) works for the Texas Department of Transportation. They have two daughters. Amanda is a sophomore at Tyler Junior College and a member of the Apache Band. Elizabeth is freshman at Tyler's Robert E. Lee High School.

1976

Paula (Dusek) Fambrough was the recipient of the Mary Howes Award. Ms. Fambrough serves as the vice chairman and has received eight outstanding production awards. The award is presented to the outstanding Contact Club member and named for the late Mary Howes, who received 17 outstanding production awards in five years. To receive this award, a Contact Club member must bring memberships into the chamber at exemplary levels and serve as a liaison between members or prospects at the chamber. Ms. Fambrough is Internet sales director for KLTV.com. She serves on the board for the East Texas Ad Federation and American Cancer Society, where she is co-chairman of the Relay for Life event.

1983

✪✪ **John "Pat" Snow** was among seven members of the Disaster Mortuary Affairs Response Team that were awarded the Bronze Star Medal on September 8,

2003 by Brig. Gen. Erwin R. Lessel. The seven were honored for their "heroic and meritorious achievements." The team, part of the 21st Theater Support Command in Germany, investigates accidents and criminal matters in the U.S. European Command and the U.S. Central Command areas of responsibility. They make sure that the remains of fallen Americans are recovered and positively identified so they can be returned to their family members.

Pat and his wife **Kay** ('83) were recently transferred to England.

1986

Edith (Edie Thomas) Rush is now a mother of two sons and one step-daughter. Edie is a part-time RN in the operating room at Willis Knighton South. She and her husband, Mike, live in Shreveport.

1988

Michaela Ellis performed in the Tyler Junior College production of *The Nutcracker* at the Wise Auditorium, December 5–7, 2003. Michaela is the daughter of Dr. Michael and **Karen R. (Gould) Ellis** and has a big brother, Trey. She is eight years old and has been a dance student since the age of three.

2000

☆ **J. Paige Alexander** is now a third grade teacher at Nettie Marshall Elementary School in Nacogdoches.

2003

Kristen Boles was recently awarded a scholarship from the Quitman ETMC Hospital Auxiliary for the fall semester at Tyler Junior College. Boles is a student in the associate degree nursing program. She is a 2001 graduate of Sulphur Springs High School. She is the daughter of John and Gail Boles, Sulphur Springs.

☆ **Florence C. Nwofia** has just been admitted into nursing school at The University of Texas at Tyler.

Check out our Web page
and leave a memory
www.tjc.edu/alumni

Marriages

1983

Darla Kay Thompson and David Lee Speed, Dallas

1990

La Donna Dews and **Larry Devereaux**, Beaumont

Cheryl Ann Underwood and Thomas Patrick Murtha, Tyler

1991

Mary Kathryn (Kathy) Kirby and **Joe Paul Teer**, Bullard

1995

Emily Rebekah Sauer and **James Edward Parsons, III**, Tyler

Amy Compton and **Chris Walker**, Tyler

1996

Jana Harvey and **Tom Ezernack**, Tyler

1997

Kristy Portlock and **Brooks Jarvis**, Arlington

Samantha Lee Trahan and **Raymond Henry Bouman**, Jacksonville

1998

Jennifer Lee Hudson and Jeff A. Glenn ('02), Bullard

Jacqueline Michele Fox and **Daniel Ray Arthur** ('02), Tyler

2000

Brandy Nicole Jacobson and **Chad Brenton Berryhill** ('01), Whitehouse

2001

Regina Roxanne Priddy and Jason Wayne Martin, Wills Point

Jennifer Ann Kelly and **Andrew Ray Tinnen**, Tyler

Yarnell D. Thompson and **Wayland Lee Smith**, Tyler

Kristi Leigh Spradlin and Jason Luckenbaugh, Alamogordo, New Mexico

Natasha Nicole Hudson and Orlando Ramon Kiser, Chandler

Send your news to TJC Alumni-Class Notes
P.O. Box 9020, Tyler, TX 74711
or e-mail bbri@tjc.edu.

2002

Jennifer Lynn Black and Jeremy Raymond Chilek, Lindale

Christy Loper and Josh Metcalf, North Dakota

Tia McKenzie Mullens and **Landon Scott Trent**, Tyler

Krystal Renee Bailey and Joseph Britt Roach, Lindale

Anna Leia Vaughn and **David Todd Poskey** ('01), Dallas-Fort Worth

Autumn Briann Morrison and Eddie Dwain Hanson, Tyler

Mandy LeAne Miller and Steven Daniel Sandvig, Mineola

Amy Catherine Vanderpool and **Benjamin Andrew Roberts**, Tyler

☆ **Melissa Shavone Leonard** and **Jon Ryan Owens** ('02), Tyler

Amanda Marie Parker and Christopher Harold Rozell, Troup

2003

Krista Michelle Waller and Paul Matthew Hickey, Whitehouse

Stephanie Carol Lam and Darrell Shawn Wood, Tyler

Amy Fairbank and Rafael Bazan, Tyler

Summer Michelle Sheppard and Timothy Andrew Wilson, Tyler

Lesla Russell and Greg Norrell, Troup

Valarie Nicole Loveless and Brett Edwards Philen, Tyler

☆ **Stephanie Ann Wells** and **Zoaib Pasha** ('03), Tyler

Megan Harrod Parks and John Chesley Newland, Tyler

☆ **Crystal Anne Wood** and Timothy Ryan Smith, Edom

Terra Patricia Castle and Justin Carl Robins, Flint

Jennifer Lynn Eubanks and Matthew Alan Jones, Tyler

Jayme Sledge and Dylan Uboldi, Orange, California

Lyndie Kay Kidd and Christopher Scott Wangler, Chandler

Shannon Elizabeth Lane and **Jeremy Bruce Smith** ('03), Tyler

Amy Rachelle Swinney and Christopher James "C.J." Anderson, Tyler

Amy Nicole Sluder and Chad Hilton Chambless, Whitehouse

Jennifer Serafin and **Tony Dugie** ('03), Tyler

Shannon Ruth Larsen and Christopher Allan Cliborn, Tyler

Amy Leigh Gulley and **Will Bridgeman Cagle** ('01), Flint

Memorials

1932

✪ **Dr. Edward Munson Potter**, November 26, 2003, Tyler

1941

☆ **Louise (Crews) Hogenson**, December 19, 2003, Tyler

1942

✪ **Judge Harry Loftis**, December 9, 2003, Tyler

1943

Lt. Col. William (Bill) G. Morley, USAF, Ret., December 7, 2003, Tyler

1948

Leslie M. (Les) Taylor, August 29, 2003, Lufkin

1950

Sports Circle of Honor

Raymond "Stud" McGallion,



November 18, 2003, Silsbee. A running back/defensive back, he was an aggressive player on both sides of the ball and had some important runs and key defensive plays in 1949's Junior Rose Bowl victory over Ft. Lewis. McGallion entered coaching after graduation from Texas Tech University and returned to his hometown of Silsbee, where he coached football for 21 years. He was inducted into the TJC Sports Circle of Honor in 1999.

Remember When ...

In the 1928 Tyler Junior College Yearbook ... Sarah McClendon wrote:

OUR NAME

At a mass meeting of T. J. C. students, President Gaston appointed a committee to select several symbolic names for the College. The committee submitted the following to the assembly: Buccaneers, Wolverines, and Panthers. However, these did not meet the approval of certain students who asserted their right to nominate from the floor. Additional names of Yellow Jackets, Cherokees and Apaches were just debated by their staunch supporters. The champions of the Buccaneers were just as sure that their name should be selected, since it was the one used unofficially in 1927, as the supporters of Indian names were that fierce "land-lubbers" would be more fitting than cruel "sea-faring dogs." Well, the Apaches finally won; and the "Bucks," though defeated, pledged their

support with loud war-whoops and the waving of tomahawks to the wildest tribe of Indians on our early frontier. We only hope the future opponents of T. J. C. will dread to hear the warning, "Apaches are putting on war paint."

NOTE: Dr. Earl Gaston is retired and living in Kingsville, TX. He is a lifetime member of the Alumni Association and attended our 75th Anniversary Founder's day celebration.

Ms. Sarah McClendon became a world-renowned journalist and covered the White House for over fifty years until her death in 2003.

(Gaston and McClendon were both members of the first class. In 1927-28, Gaston served as student council president and also as president of Las Mascaras. McClendon was on the yearbook staff and was assistant editor of the school newspaper, The Apache Pow-Wow.)



Do you know the names of the two gentlemen standing with Brian Collins and Edward Potter? If so, please contact the alumni Office at 903-510-2371, or call toll free 1-800-687-5680 and ask for extension 2371.

Chapter News ...

New York Area Chapter

The New York Area Chapter Steering Committee will meet on April 28 at The Cowgirl Hall of Fame, 519 Hudson Street at 10th Street (West Village) at 7 p.m. Officers are:

David Wren, '77, *President*

(d.n.wren@worldnet.att.net)

Pamela Smith, '71, *Vice President*

Terry Gipson, '82, *Secretary*

Wendy Straus, '81, *Treasurer*

Houston Chapter

"Thirsty Thursday" happy hour gatherings will be the second Thursday of each month. The first "Thirsty Thursday" will be at Jalapeño's on March 11, from 5-7 p.m., 2702 Kirby Drive.

This year's Houston Chapter annual reception will be held Thursday, April 22, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at Buca di Beppo, 5192 Buffalo Speedway. Officers are:

Jane Mostowitz, '72, *President*, (jm1426@wt.net)

Terry Stillabower, '67, *Vice President*

Virginia Vincent, '80, *Secretary*

Maureen Hengst, '80, *Calling Committee Chair*

Johnny Linney, '52, *Calling Committee Member*
Treasurer: (vacant)

Austin Chapter

The Austin chapter steering committee met on January 23. Those present were:

Carol Pumbo, '78, *President*,

(cpumbo@mphlegal.com)

Kenneth Ragsdale, '39, *Vice President*

Carolyn Smyrl, '59, *Secretary*

Mary Blitch, '50, *Treasurer*

The steering committee decided to hold this year's annual reception at Threadgills' on Logan Street from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 23.

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

The Dallas/Ft. Worth chapter steering committee met February 3 and selected the following committee members:

Lou Fouts, '64, *President*, (foutslou@juno.com)

Bobbie (Morris) Rucker, '71, *Vice President*

Susan Jones, '89, *Secretary*

Kristin (Helt) Ortega, '94, *Treasurer*

Mary Brown, '83, *Calling Committee*

Ramon Orona, '50, *Calling Committee*

Carole Errett, '66, *Calling Committee*

The committee decided to hold this year's annual Dallas chapter reception at Chuy's on Knox (just off Central), Thursday, May 6, from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

For more information on your Chapter events, email Chapter presidents or contact the Alumni office at 903-510-2371 or email bbri@tjc.edu.

WELCOME NEW ALUMNI MEMBERS

New Lifetime Members, September 15, 2003– January 31, 2004

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Briggs
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Carney
Mrs. Melinda W. Cox
Mr. Craig M. Daugherty
Mr. Judson D. Davis
Mr. John M. Driggers
Mrs. Teresa L. Elliott
Mr. and Mrs. B.G. Hartley
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Gilliam
Ms. Mindy G. Howell
Dr. and Mrs. Edgar R. McMillan
Mrs. and Mrs. Jack R. Pickle
Mr. and Mrs. Don Pinkerton
Mr. Hollis F. Pinyan
Dr. Katie L. Preast
Mr. and Mrs. Kerry S. Sitton
Mrs. Jacquelyn Thompson
Mrs. Dana L. Welch
Mr. Bobby Woodruff
Ms. Mary H. Zorn

New/Renewal Annual Members, September 15, 2003– January 31, 2004

Ms. Paige Alexander
Mr. and Mrs. James F. Barnes
Ms. Liane E. Beacham
Mrs. Jean Boles
Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Burks
Ms. Betty M. Dease
Mrs. Pamela A. Early
Mrs. Laura S. Farmer
Mr. John R. Fowler
Ms. Evalyn J. Free
Mrs. Theresa K. Graham
Mrs. Billie D. Gribble
Ms. Victoria D. Gronberg
Mrs. Verna Hall
Mrs. Susan W. Jones
Mr. Larry A. Krasner
Ms. Linda Lambert
Mr. Charles Langford
Mrs. Carole D. Miller
Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence V. Puckett

Mr. Kenneth B. Ragsdale
Mr. E. E. Gene Reynolds
Mr. Billy M. Ricks
Mrs. Karen R. Roberts
Mrs. Lisa Robinson
Mrs. S. Michelle Roden
Ms. Jennifer A. Rozell
Ms. Jan R. Skinner
Mrs. Linda Stephenson
Mrs. Jane Storbeck
Mr. James A. Townsend
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Turner
Mrs. Vickie J. Weeks
Ms. Susan C. Wiggins
Mrs. Laurel M. Williams
Mr. Terry A. Williams
Ms. Marilynn R. Wilson



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESENTS \$25,000 CHECK—During the 2003 Homecoming Awards Ceremony, Alumni President Shirley Mallory presented a \$25,000 check from the Tyler Junior College Alumni Association to President William R. Crowe. The money will endow the Alumni Association's second Legacy Scholarship. With your alumni dues, the Association has five endowed scholarships: two Presidential (\$25,000), two Legacy (\$25,000), and an annual (\$10,000). Endowed scholarships are permanent scholarships where only the interest is awarded to scholarship recipients. The Alumni Association has also established the STARS (Students To Alumni Representatives) scholarship program. STARS are current TJC students who are selected to be our ambassadors and assist the College with various events.

For more information on applying for alumni scholarships, contact the Alumni office at 903-510-2371 or email Alumni Director Betty Briggs at bbri@tjc.edu.



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